

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-11 DOEE-00 SSO-00 /159 W
-----052379 271727Z /41

P 271657Z FEB 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6499

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USMTN

SRT FOR ACTION

STR PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD, RP
SUBJECT: PHILIPPINES IN THE MTN
REF: STATE 047797

1. US MTN DEL DECEMBER 16 LETTER ON S&D REPEATED BELOW.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR AMBASSADOR VEGA: AS A PART OF THE
TOTAL EFFORT TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK BY JANUARY 15, 1978,
FOR INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE TOKYO ROUND TO BEGIN,
THE U.S. IS PREPARING AN OFFER FOR TARIFF REDUCTIONS ON
NON-AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TO BE TABLED DURING THAT WEEK.
THIS OFFER WILL BE BASED ON THE WORKING HYPOTHESIS AS
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OUTLINED TO MTN PARTICIPANTS DURING THE INFORMAL MEETING
ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1977, IN GENEVA. IT WILL GENERALLY
FOLLOW THE FORMULA PROPOSED BY SWITZERLAND, PLUS OR MINUS
5 PERCENT.

3. ALTHOUGH NO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR TARIFF REDUCTIONS
HAS BEEN FORMALLY AGREED BY ALL MTN PARTICIPANTS, THE

U.S. WOULD LIKE TO CONSIDER THE PARTICULAR INTERESTS, EVEN ON A PRELIMINARY BASIS, OF ALL MTN PARTICIPANTS, AND PARTICULARLY THOSE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHO SEEK SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT. SINCE THE JANUARY 15 DATE IS NEARLY UPON US, THE U.S. WISHES TO INVITE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO INFORM US OF ANY PARTICULAR REQUESTS THAT THEY WISH THE U.S. TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION BEFORE ANY U.S. TARIFF OFFER IS TABLED.

4. THE U.S. IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO THE DESIRES OF AND IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TOWARD A FORMAL STATEMENT ON SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT IF IT CAN BE AGREED AS A PART OF ANY LATER FORMULATION OF A TARIFF PLAN. IN THE MEANTIME, THE U.S. WISHES TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO ITS STATEMENT DURING THE DECEMBER 1976 MEETING OF GROUP TARIFFS ON THIS SUBJECT THAT MAY BE HELPFUL AS AN INTERIM GUIDE IN CONSIDERING WHAT REQUESTS YOUR GOVERNMENT MIGHT CHOOSE TO MAKE. IN BRIEF, THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT PHILIPPINES MAY WISH TO PRESENT FOR APPLICATION AT THE PRODUCT LEVEL:

5. (1) SPECIFIC REDUCTIONS OF U.S. TARIFF RATES DEEPER THAN THOSE CALLED FOR BY THE APPLICATION OF THE WORKING HYPOTHESIS, INCLUDING DEEPER CUTS THAN REQUIRED (WITHIN THE LIMITS OF U.S. AUTHORITY) OR ELIMINATION OF U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TARIFFS 5 PERCENT AD VALOREM OR BELOW.

6. (2) WHEN FULL WORKING HYPOTHESIS REDUCTIONS ARE NOT POSSIBLE, TARIFF REDUCTIONS AS NEAR AS POSSIBLE TO THE REDUCTIONS CALLED FOR BY THE WORKING HYPOTHESIS.

7. (3) TARIFF RECLASSIFICATION TO ALLOW THE OPENING OF NEW TARIFF LINES FOR PRODUCTS OF EXPORT INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

8. (4) STAGING OF REDUCTIONS ON PARTICULAR PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT A FASTER RATE THAN THAT ADOPTED AS A GENERAL RULE (ALTHOUGH FINAL DECISIONS ON STAGING WILL PROBABLY BE DEFERRED UNTIL NEAR THE END OF THE NEGOTIATIONS).

9. CONSIDERING THE TIME NEEDED TO ANALYZE ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS BEFORE THE TABLING OF OFFERS, IT IS DESIRABLE THAT WE BE INFORMED OF ANY SUCH REQUESTS FROM PHILIPPINES IN THE COMING WEEKS. IF PHILIPPINES CANNOT RESPOND THAT QUICKLY, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER REQUESTS MADE AT A LATER DATE INCLUDING THOSE COMMUNICATED AFTER THE WEEK

BEGINNING JANUARY 15, ALTHOUGH THE LONGER TIME AVAILABLE FOR CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS, THE GREATER THE POSSIBILITY THEY CAN RECEIVE THE FULL ATTENTION IN WASHINGTON THAT THEY MAY MERIT.

10. THE UNITED STATES APPRECIATES THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MAY WISH TO ASSESS OFFERS BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BEFORE TABLING THEIR OWN OFFERS, BUT SUGGESTS THAT SUCH ACTION BE AT AN EARLY ENOUGH DATE SUBSEQUENT TO JANUARY 15 TO PERMIT SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS. IN THIS REGARD THE UNITED STATES ON NOVEMBER 1 COMMUNICATED AN INDICATIVE LIST OF NON-AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT AREAS ON WHICH IT SEEKS TO NEGOTIATE IMPROVED MARKET ACCESS, AND LOOKS FORWARD TO YOUR EARLY CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS IN THESE PRODUCT AREAS. SINCERELY, ALONZO L. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MCDONALD, AMBASSADOR, U.S. MTN DELEGATION. END TEXT.

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DOE-11 DOEE-00 SSO-00 /159 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6500

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USMTN, STR FOR ACTION, STR PASS CODEL

11. DRAFTED BY GRAEF. MCDONALD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 feb 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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